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Agenda item 67

Promotion and protection of human rights

Report of the Third Committee*

Rapporteur: Ms. Elena **Molaroni** (San Marino)

I. Introduction

1. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 13 September 2006, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its sixty-first session the item entitled:

"Promotion and protection of human rights:

"(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

"(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

"(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

"(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action"

and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. An account of the Third Committee's consideration of the item is given in the addenda to the present report.

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

* The report of the Committee on this item will be issued in five parts, under the symbol A/61/443 and Add.1-4.

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Item 67
Promotion and protection of human rights

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights[1]

Letter dated 20 June 2006 from the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the Secretary-General (A/61/97)

Letter dated 2 August 2006 from the representative of Japan to the Secretary-General (A/61/220)

Letter dated 17 August 2006 from the representative of Cuba to the Secretary-General (A/61/280)

Item 67 (a)
Implementation of human rights instruments

Report of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on its third and fourth sessions[2]

Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture (A/61/226)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (A/61/279)

Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (A/61/354)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (A/61/259)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies on their eighteenth meeting (A/61/385)

Letter dated 14 September 2006 from the representative of Liechtenstein to the Secretary-General transmitting the Chairperson's summary of an international meeting of experts on the theme of treaty body reform ("Malbun II"), held at Triesenberg, Liechtenstein, from 14 to 16 July 2006 (A/61/351)

Letter dated 19 October 2006 from the representative of Uzbekistan to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/61/5)

Item 67 (b)
Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Report of the Secretary-General on the right to development (A/61/211)

Report of the Secretary-General on globalization and its impact on the full enjoyment of all human rights (A/61/281)

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 36* (A/61/36).
[2] Ibid., *Supplement No. 48* (A/61/48).

Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures (A/61/287)

Report of the Secretary-General on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances (A/61/289)

Report of the Secretary-General on combating defamation of religions (A/61/325)

Report of the Secretary-General on the establishment of a United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab region (A/61/348)

Report of the Secretary-General on the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa (A/61/352)

Report of the Secretary-General on protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism (A/61/353)

Report of the Secretary-General on missing persons (A/61/476)

Report of the Secretary-General on regional arrangements for the promotion and protection of human rights (A/61/513)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the protection of human rights while countering terrorism (A/61/267)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the right to food (A/61/306)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on extrajudicial, arbitrary or summary executions (A/61/311)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders (A/61/312)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of migrants (A/61/324)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health (A/61/338)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (A/61/340)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers (A/61/384)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the independent expert on the effects of economic reform policies and foreign debt on the full enjoyment of all human rights (A/61/464)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports of the independent expert on human rights and extreme poverty (A/61/465)

Letter dated 5 October 2006 from the representative of Mexico to the Secretary-General transmitting the final report of the Helsinki Process Meeting on International Migration (A/61/506)

Letter dated 25 October 2006 from the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/61/552)

Item 67 (c)
Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Turkmenistan (A/61/489)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/61/504)

Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Uzbekistan (A/61/526)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons (A/61/276)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (A/61/349)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the independent expert on the situation of human rights in Burundi (A/61/360)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/61/369 and Corr.1)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation and the activities of her Office, including technical cooperation, in Nepal (A/61/374)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan (A/61/469)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967 (A/61/470)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report of the independent expert on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (A/61/475)

Letter dated 27 October 2006 from the representative of Myanmar to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/61/6)

Letter dated 1 November 2006 from the representative of Uzbekistan to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/61/7)

Letter dated 10 November 2006 from the representative of Uzbekistan to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/61/8)

Item 67 (d)
Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action

No documents were submitted under this sub-item.

II. Consideration of a draft decision proposed by the Chairman

4. At its 53rd meeting, on 28 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of a number of documents considered in connection with the question of human rights (see para. 5).

III. Recommendation of the Third Committee

5. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Reports considered by the General Assembly in connection with the promotion and protection of human rights

The General Assembly takes note of the following reports under the item entitled "Promotion and protection of human rights":

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.[1]

Under sub-item (a):

(a) Report of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families on its third and fourth sessions;[2]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture;[3]

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment;[4]

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Optional Protocols to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights;[5]

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;[6]

(f) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the chairpersons of the human rights treaty bodies on their eighteenth meeting.[7]

Under sub-item (b):

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the right to development;[8]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on human rights and unilateral coercive measures;[9]

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-first Session, Supplement No. 36* (A/61/36).
[2] Ibid., *Supplement No. 48* (A/61/48).
[3] A/61/226.
[4] A/61/279.
[5] A/61/354.
[6] A/61/259.
[7] A/61/385.
[8] A/61/211.
[9] A/61/287.

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the question of enforced or involuntary disappearances;[10]

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on combating defamation of religions;[11]

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the establishment of a United Nations Human Rights Training and Documentation Centre for South-West Asia and the Arab region;[12]

(f) Report of the Secretary-General on missing persons;[13]

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the protection of human rights while countering terrorism;[14]

(h) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on human rights defenders;[15]

(i) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health;[16]

(j) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief;[17]

(k) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the independence of judges and lawyers;[18]

(l) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the independent expert on the effects of economic reform policies and foreign debt on the full enjoyment of all human rights;[19]

(m) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the reports of the independent expert on human rights and extreme poverty.[20]

Under sub-item (c):

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Turkmenistan;[21]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the situation of human rights in Uzbekistan;[22]

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[10] A/61/289.
[11] A/61/325.
[12] A/61/348.
[13] A/61/476.
[14] A/61/267.
[15] A/61/312.
[16] A/61/338.
[17] A/61/340.
[18] A/61/384.
[19] A/61/464.
[20] A/61/465.
[21] A/61/489.
[22] A/61/526.

(c) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Representative of the Secretary-General on the human rights of internally displaced persons;[23]

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the interim report of the independent expert on the situation of human rights in Burundi;[24]

(e) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar;[25]

(f) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the human rights situation and the activities of her Office, including technical cooperation, in Nepal;[26]

(g) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Sudan;[27]

(h) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967;[28]

(i) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the progress report of the independent expert on the situation of human rights in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.[29]

[23] A/61/276.
[24] A/61/360.
[25] A/61/369 and Corr.1.
[26] A/61/374.
[27] A/61/469.
[28] A/61/470.
[29] A/61/475.